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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

15 FEBRUARY 2018

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles - Police Say Hundreds of Illegal Marijuana Shops Operate in LA

(U) Los Angeles has issued licenses to nearly 100 marijuana retailers, but police estimate there are at least 200 to 300 operating illegally in the city and undercutting those who are properly licensed. Police have shut down eight illegal marijuana shops and arrested at least 35 people in eight different raids since 1 January, but their pace is unlikely to intensify as LAPD is focused on curbing violent crimes. Police stated that countering the illegal shops is difficult as they tend to pop-up quickly and move quickly.

SOURCE: 14 February 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Sacramento - Sweep Targets Street Gang Directed from California Prison

(U) Authorities arrested 31 people yesterday who they said are connected to a violent, drug-running multi-state street gang directed from inside one of California's prisons. The massive sweep by more than 750 law enforcement federal, state and local officers netted 29 suspects on drug and weapons charges across 10 Northern California counties. The operation was directed by two inmate members of the Northern Structure prison gang who used smuggled cellphones to communicate from inside Pelican Bay State Prison, federal and state officials said.

SOURCE: 14 February 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) San Francisco - Students Sickened by Rainbow Marijuana Candies

(U) Ten students at James Lick Middle School in San Francisco reported feeling sick—five of whom went to the hospital—after consuming marijuana candies that some students described as rainbow-colored gummy strips. All the students eventually were determined to be okay, but parents have expressed concern that getting the marijuana candy on campus was too easy and can likely happen again.

SOURCE: 14 February 2018, [KTVU News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida - School Shooting Suspect charged with 17 Counts of Premeditated Murder

(U) Parkland - A 19-year-old man who had been expelled from his Florida high school was due in court today, charged with 17 counts of murder, after authorities say he opened fire at the school, unleashing one of the deadliest school shootings in US history. The ex-student, identified as Nikolas Cruz, 19, walked into the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland yesterday and opened fire on students and teachers, Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said. Police believe he acted alone.

SOURCE: 15 February 2018, [CNBC](#)

(U) New York - Top al-Qa'ida Operative to be Sentenced for Killing US Troops

(U) Brooklyn - A senior al-Qa'ida member is set to be sentenced tomorrow in a Brooklyn court for conspiring to kill two American service members 15 years ago in Afghanistan and later plotting to bomb the US Embassy in Nigeria. Ibrahim Suleiman Adnan Adam Harun, or Spin Ghul as he was known to

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fellow militants, faces life in prison. His conviction on terrorism charges in March is the first of 30 secured by federal prosecutors since President Trump took office.

SOURCE: 14 February 2018, [Washington Post](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Pakistan - US May Seek to Put Pakistan on Terrorism-Finance List**

(U) Islamabad - The United States has indicated that it will seek to place Pakistan on a watch list of countries that are not doing enough to counter terrorism financing, threatening Islamabad with global isolation, according to a senior Pakistani official—a list the country was on from 2012 to 2015. As a result, Pakistan has adopted sanctions against two groups that the United States accuses of being fronts for the militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba, moving to seize their schools, ambulances, and other assets this week.

SOURCE: 14 February 2018, [New York Times](#)

(U) Switzerland - Most Powerful Man in Chess Accused of 'Secretly Funding ISIS'

(U) Lausanne - The world governing body of chess has had its financial dealings frozen amid allegations its scandal-hit president, Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, facilitated the funding of ISIS terrorists. The US Treasury Department had previously put Ilyumzhinov on a sanctions list due to his involvement in 'networks providing support to the Government of Syria, including the facilitation of Syrian Government oil purchases from ISIS,' and has been on a US wanted list since 2015.

SOURCE: 14 February 2018, [New York Post](#)

(U) United Kingdom - Prolific Pro-ISIS Twitter User Convicted of Promoting Terrorism

(U) London - Shafi Mohammed Saleem, 28, used nearly two dozen Twitter and Instagram accounts to share pro-ISIS messages and images has been sentenced to two years for promoting terrorism. London police found devices containing videos of Osama Bin Laden and ISIS militants, articles from terrorist magazines, and a photo of him posing holding what appears to be a handgun. Saleem's tweets included an image of two "zombie knives" (a type of weapon that is illegal in the UK) with the word "itching," and another of a man holding them with the caption "dip dip dip"—apparently meaning "to stab."

SOURCE: 14 February 2018, [Business Insider](#)

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